

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly amend the specification as follows.

1. On page 1, immediately beneath the title, please insert the following new paragraph:

This is a National Phase Application in the United States of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/008117 filed June 10, 2004, which claims priority on Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-177134, filed June 20, 2003. The entire disclosures of the above patent applications are hereby incorporated by reference.

2. Kindly replace the paragraphs on page 7, line 14, to page 10, line 13, which begins with "The present invention as claimed in Claim 1...", with the following new paragraphs:

[0018] The present invention in accordance with a first apparatus embodiment ~~as claimed in Claim 1~~ is fundamentally so constituted that, with a device for supplying a specified quantity Q of gas G while dividing at a specified flow rate ratio Q1/Q2 from a gas supply facility 1 provided with a flow controller QCS into a chamber C through a plurality of branch supply lines GL1 and GL2 and shower plates 3 and 4 fixed to the ends thereof, open/close valves OV1 and OV2 are provided with an afore-mentioned plurality of branch supply lines GL1 and GL2 respectively, and also a bypass line BL1 on the downstream side of an open/close valve OV1 and branched from the branch supply line GL1, a bypass line BL2 on the downstream side of an open/close valve OV2 and branched from the branch supply line GL2, a pressure type division quantity controller FV connected to the afore-mentioned bypass lines BL1 and BL2, a pressure sensor PS1 to measure pressure inside the branch supply line GL1,

and a pressure sensor PS2 to measure pressure inside the branch supply line GL2 are provided.

[0019] The present invention, in accordance with a second apparatus embodiment, further modifies the first apparatus embodiment and as claimed in Claim 2 according to Claim 1 is fundamentally so constituted that a control device CT to regulate the degree of opening of a pressure type division quantity controller FV is provided to reduce the difference between actual pressure of the branch supply line and set pressure to reach the specified flow rate ratio $Q1/Q2$ by comparing either one of set pressure PI1 or PI2 of the branch supply lines GL1 and GL2 to reach the specified flow rate ratio $Q1/Q2$ with corresponding actual pressure PT1 or PT2 of the branch supply lines GL1 or GL2 measured by the pressure sensor PS1 or the pressure sensor PS2.

[0020] The present invention, in accordance with a third apparatus embodiment, further modifies the first apparatus embodiment and the second apparatus embodiment and as claimed in Claim 3 according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 is fundamentally so constituted that an open/close valve OV1 and an open/close valve OV2 are pneumatically operated, and a switch valve SV is provided for supplying actuating air to the open/close valve OV1 and the open/close valve OV2.

[0021] The present invention, in accordance with a fourth apparatus embodiment, further modifies the first apparatus embodiment, the second apparatus embodiment and the third apparatus embodiment and as claimed in Claim 4 according to Claim 1, Claim 2 or Claim 3 is fundamentally so constituted that an open/close valve OV1 and an open/close valve OV2 are made to be integrated.

[0022] The present invention, in accordance with a fifth apparatus embodiment, further modifies the first apparatus embodiment, the second apparatus embodiment, the third

~~apparatus embodiment and the fourth apparatus embodiment and as claimed in Claim 5~~
~~according to Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3 or Claim 4~~ is fundamentally so constituted that a pressure type flow controller FCS is used for a flow controller QCS.

[0023] The present invention, in accordance with a first method embodiment, ~~as claimed in Claim 6~~ is fundamentally so constituted that, with a method for supplying a specified quantity Q of gas G while dividing at a specified flow rate ratio $Q1/Q2$ from a gas supply facility 1 provided with a flow controller QCS into a chamber C through a plurality of branch supply lines $GL1$ and $GL2$ and shower plates 3 and 4 fixed to the ends thereof, open/close valves $OV1$ and $OV2$ are installed on an afore-mentioned plurality of branch supply lines $GL1$ and $GL2$ respectively, and also a bypass line $BL1$ on the downstream side of an open/close valve $OV1$ and branched from the branch supply line $GL1$, a bypass line $BL2$ on the downstream side of an open/close valve $OV2$ and branched from the branch supply line $GL2$, a pressure type division quantity controller FV connected to the afore-mentioned bypass lines $BL1$ and $BL2$, and further a pressure sensor $PS1$ to measure pressure inside the branch supply line $GL1$, and a pressure sensor $PS2$ to measure pressure inside the branch supply line $GL2$ are provided so that a total quantity $Q=Q1+Q2$ of gas is supplied while dividing into a chamber C at desired division quantities $Q1$ and $Q2$ by opening the open/close valve of the branch supply line which has a larger flow rate to regulate the degree of opening of the afore-mentioned pressure type division quantity controller FV , and adjusting the flow rate of the branch supply line which has the larger flow rate to the branch supply line which has the smaller flow rate, thus regulating pressure in the branch supply line $GL1$ and the branch supply line $GL2$.

[0024] The present invention, in accordance with a second method embodiment, further modifies the first method embodiment ~~and as claimed in Claim 7 according to Claim 6~~ is so practiced ~~made~~ that the degree of opening of a pressure type division quantity controller FV is

regulated to reduce the difference between actual pressure of a branch supply line and set pressure to reach a specified flow rate ratio $Q1/Q2$ by comparing either one of set pressure $PI1$ or $PI2$ of branch supply lines $GL1$ and $GL2$ to reach the specified flow rate ratio $Q1/Q2$ with corresponding actual pressure $PT1$ or $PT2$ of the branch supply lines $GL1$ and $GL2$ measured by the pressure sensor $PS1$ or the pressure sensor $PS2$.

[0025] The present invention, in accordance with a third apparatus embodiment, further modifies the first method embodiment and the second method embodiment and as claimed in Claim 8 according to Claim 6 or Claim 7 is so practiced made that an open/close valve $OV1$ and an open/close valve $OV2$ are pneumatically operated, and a switch valve SV is provided for supplying actuating air to the open/close valve $OV1$ and the open/close valve $OV2$ so that the open/close valve of the branch supply line with the larger supply quantity is made open by the switch valve SV .

[0026] The present invention, in accordance with a fourth method embodiment, further modifies the first method embodiment, the second method embodiment and the third method embodiment and as claimed in Claim 9 according to Claim 6, Claim 7 or Claim 8 is so practiced made that a pressure type flow controller is used for a flow controller QCS .